

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Listing of claims:

1. (Previously Presented) A method, comprising:

receiving a message by a signaling proxy (SP), wherein the message has a source address and a destination address;

processing the message if the destination address of the message is different than a SP address and an address for which the message is intended; and

sending the message.

2. - 3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein processing the message comprises:

replacing the destination address of the message with the address for which the message is intended; and

replacing the source address of the message with the address of the SP.

5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 4, further comprising:

receiving a response from an entity for which the message is intended;

replacing a destination address of the response with the source address of the message;

replacing a source address of the response with the destination address of the message;

and

sending the response.

6. - 7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 further comprising:

before ~~receiving~~ the SP receives the message, ~~forwardings~~ forwarding the message to the SP according to a forwarding strategy by a network device.

9. - 10. (Canceled)

11. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ A signaling proxy (SP) apparatus, comprising:

a receiving unit configured to receiving a message, wherein the message has a source address and a destination address;

a processing unit configured to process the message if the destination address of the message is different than a SP address and an address for which the message is intended; and

a sending unit configured to send the message.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 11,

wherein the processing unit is configured to replace the destination address of the message with the address for which the message is intended, and replace the source address of the message with the SP address.

14. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein the receiving unit is further configured to receive a response from an entity for which the message is intended; and wherein the processing unit is further configured to replace a destination address of the response with the source address of the message and replace a source address of the response with the destination address of the message.

15. – 20. (Canceled)

21. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 8, wherein the forwarding strategy comprises forwarding the message to the SP according to the destination address of the message.

22. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the address for which the message is intended is an address of a terminal or an address of a server.

23. (Previously Presented) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the address for which the message is intended is an address of a terminal or an address of a server.

24. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a signaling proxy (SP) located between a terminal and a server; and

a router located between the terminal and the SP,

wherein the SP is configured to receive a message and process the message if at least one of a VPN ID, a VLAN ID, a MPLS ID, an IP protocol type, a source address, or a source port of the message meets a strategy of the SP; and

wherein the router is configured to forward the message to the SP according to a forwarding strategy.

25. – 27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) The system according to claim ~~27~~ 24, wherein the forwarding strategy comprises forwarding the message to the SP according to the destination address of the message.